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LETTER DATED 23 OCTOBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to inform you of the following:

At 1530 hours on 19 October 1997 three Kuwaiti patrol boats equipped with automatic weapons and each having four armed men on board opened fire on Iraqi coastguard vessels which were in the demilitarized zone.

I would request you to intervene with Kuwait to bring an end to these acts of provocation, which constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law. I also wish to reaffirm the right of the Republic of Iraq, in accordance with the principle of international liability, to seek compensation for the harm suffered as a result of these actions.

I should be obliged if you would have the text of this letter circulated to the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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